

Message Text

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O 021519Z MAY 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY VIENNA IMMEDIATE
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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 090116

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM
SUBJECT: GUIDANCE FOR NEXT MBFR NEGOTIATING SESSION

VIENNA FOR USMBFR DEL

1. IN THE NEXT MBFR NEGOTIATING SESSION, THE US MBFR
DELEGATION SHOULD CONTINUE TO PURSUE THE TACTICAL OBJECTIVE
DIRECTED IN STATE 5679, VIZ, TO GET THE EAST TO ACCEPT
NEGOTIATION IN A FIRST-PHASE OF ONLY US-SOVIET REDUCTIONS
AND TO DEFER WESTERN EUROPEAN REDUCTIONS TO A SECOND-PHASE
OF NEGOTIATIONS. AT THE SAME TIME, THE DELEGATION SHOULD
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ALSO CONTINUE TO EMPHASIZE THE COMMON CEILING AS THE

CONCEPTUAL BASIS FOR THE OVERALL ALLIED APPROACH AND A CENTRAL OBJECTIVE.

2. TO ACHIEVE THE FOREGOING TACTICAL OBJECTIVE THE DELEGATION IS AUTHORIZED, FOLLOWING APPROPRIATE CONSULTATION WITH THE ALLIES, TO INDICATE WILLINGNESS TO TAKE THE FOLLOWING STEPS IF AND AS JUSTIFIED BY THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE EASTERN POSITION; ALL POINTS WOULD BE CONTINGENT ON REACHING A SATISFACTORY PHASE I AGREEMENT, INCLUDING COMMITMENT TO THE COMMON CEILING CONCEPT:
A. WITH RESPECT TO PREVIOUS ALLIED INDICATION THAT THE PHASE I AGREEMENT WOULD CONTAIN A PROVISION THAT PHASE II NEGOTIATIONS WOULD BEGIN WITHIN AN AGREED FIXED PERIOD OF

TIME AFTER THE PHASE I AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED, WE WOULD BE WILLING TO WORK FOR A COMMITMENT TO BEGIN PHASE II NEGOTIATIONS NOT LATER THAN 18 MONTHS AFTER SIGNATURE OF A PHASE I AGREEMENT AND PREFERABLY AS SOON AFTER PHASE I SIGNATURE AS IS PRACTICABLE.

B. IN VIEW OF EASTERN SUGGESTIONS OF A FREEZE BETWEEN PHASES ON EUROPEAN FORCES, WE WOULD BE WILLING TO EXAMINE THE POSSIBILITY OF MAKING A COMMITMENT THAT EACH SIDE WILL NOT INCREASE ITS AGGREGATE GROUND MANPOWER IN THE NGA IN THE INTERIM BETWEEN A PHASE I AGREEMENT AND A PHASE II AGREEMENT OR A PERIOD OF 5 YEARS, WHICHEVER IS SHORTER. THIS WOULD BE IN CONNECTION WITH AN OTHERWISE SATISFACTORY PHASE I AGREEMENT, INCLUDING COMMITMENT TO THE COMMON CEILING CONCEPT.

C. WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT THE WESTERN CONTRIBUTION TO PHASE II REDUCTIONS WOULD INCLUDE REDUCTIONS IN THE FORCES OF ALL WEST EUROPEAN DIRECT PARTICIPANTS AND IN THE EVENT OF AN OTHERWISE SATISFACTORY PHASE I AGREEMENT, INCLUDING ACCEPTANCE OF THE COMMON CEILING CONCEPT, THERE COULD BE A PROVISION IN THE PHASE I AGREEMENT WHICH MADE THIS CLEAR.

D. WE WOULD BE WILLING TO EXAMINE THE POSSIBILITY OF INCLUDING IN PHASE I AGREEMENT A PROVISION PERMITTING
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WITHDRAWAL OF THE USSR AND U.S. FROM THE AGREEMENT AFTER 5 YEARS, UNLESS A PHASE II AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED.

E. THE DELEGATION IS ALSO AUTHORIZED TO UNDERTAKE A DISCUSSION OF DATA WITH THE SOVIETS WITH A VIEW TOWARD CLARIFYING PERCEIVED DISCREPANCIES IN CATEGORIZATION OF GROUND FORCES.

3. THE DELEGATION SHOULD CONTINUE TO MAKE IT UNMISTAKABLY CLEAR TO THE EAST THAT THE ONLY WAY TO GET WESTERN EUROPEAN REDUCTIONS IS THROUGH AGREEMENT TO THE COMMON CEILING CONCEPT AND TO PRIOR US-SOVIET REDUCTIONS.

4. AFTER THE ALLIES HAVE EITHER SUCCEEDED IN ACHIEVING EASTERN FOCUS ON US/SOVIET PHASE I GROUND FORCE REDUCTIONS, OR IN THE JUDGMENT OF THE US DELEGATION THEY ARE UNABLE TO MAKE PROGRESS TOWARD THIS OBJECTIVE WITH THE AUTHORITY AT HAND, THE DELGATION SHOULD THEN, DRAWING UPON DEVELOPMENTS IN VIENNA AND OTHER CONSIDERATIONS, MAKE FURTHER PROPOSALS TO WASHINGTON FOR SUBSEQUENT STEPS TO BE TAKEN, AND SEEK WASHINGTON GUIDANCE.

5. USNATO MAY DRAW UPON ABOVE AS APPROPRIATE. RUSH

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